

25 August 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Major Lucien E. Conein, Chief of Harenberg
Operations Base

REFERENCE : Director's Log, 20-21 August 1953

1. Major Lucien E. Conein was born in Paris, France in November 1919. In 1925, he came to the United States with his parents where formal residence was established in Kansas City, Kansas. Educated in local public schools and the University of Maryland, he entered the French Army in 1939 as a member of the Foreign Legion stationed successively in North Africa and Central France.

2. Following the fall of France, he enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1941. Receiving his commission in June 1943, Conein was forthwith detailed to OSS and assigned to OSS/England for thorough training under the aegis of the British Special Operation Executive Jedburgh program. In August 1944, he parachuted into Southern France on a five month mission aimed at reorganizing elements of the French Resistance Movement (Maquis) in the Toulouse area. Following the liberation of France, he was reassigned to OSS/China whence he twice parachuted into Tonkin, Indo-China to assist in the organization of military units for resistance against the Japanese. For his service in connection with the French, Conein received the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with Palm.

3. Following war's end, he continued as a staff officer at OSS/Hanoi until October 1945 when he returned to Headquarters for reassignment to SSU/Germany where he has since continuously served.

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4. Among other decorations, Major Cosein holds the Bronze Star and a British Mention in Dispatch citation. It is noteworthy as well that General Truscott formally commended him for his "valuable contribution to a difficult work" in connection with his service as Chief of Murenberg Operations Base.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)



Executive Secretariat

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